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Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues
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Draft report

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Chapter I
Matters calling for action by the Economic and Social Council or brought to its attention

B. Matters brought to the attention of the Council

Recommendations of the Permanent Forum
Human rights

1. Recognizing that the Inter-Agency Support Group will play a central role in coordinating efforts among United Nations agencies to translate the outcome document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples into meaningful change, the Permanent Forum requests that the Group ensure that its membership includes all United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, including specialized agencies. The Forum recommends that the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Population Fund and the Advisory Board of the United Nations Office for Partnerships and other relevant United Nations agencies take necessary measures for addressing the special situation of indigenous peoples in developed countries.

2. As a matter of indigenous human rights and consistent with article 18 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, previous Permanent Forum recommendations, and the outcome document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, with particular consideration of paragraph 33, the right to participate in decision-making is highly relevant to three fast-approaching and pivotal multilateral negotiations. In this regard, the Permanent Forum urgently requests all States, United Nations agencies, and high-level representatives of the United Nations system to ensure direct participation of indigenous peoples in the multilateral negotiations referred to below. We further request that all of these actors advocate for and ensure that there is explicit reference to indigenous peoples and their distinct human rights and status throughout the remaining processes related to:

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(a) The High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, to be held from 26 June to 8 July 2015; and the United Nations summit to adopt the post-2015 development agenda, to be held from 25 to 27 September 2015, bearing in mind the need for indigenous specific indicators and disaggregated data;

(b) The high-level event on climate change, to be held in New York on 29 June 2015; and the twenty-first session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and eleventh session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol;

(c) The third International Conference on Financing for Development, to be held from 13 to 16 July 2015.

The Permanent Forum also requests that States and United Nations agencies engaging in those events ensure strong linkages with the outcome document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, with particular consideration of paragraph 33, and indigenous participation.

3. The Permanent Forum reminds States that implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples provides a common framework for reconciliation, justice, healing and peace. Each State has a prime responsibility and duty to protect, promote and implement all human rights, consistent with the Charter of the United Nations and international human rights law; furthermore, all forms of discrimination must be avoided.

4. The Permanent Forum recommends that United Nations treaty bodies and mechanisms, as well as the universal periodic review process, scrutinize the reports and human rights record of States, so as to effectively address rights ritualism. This should include ensuring that State claims are systematically compared to the concerns raised by indigenous peoples and civil society.

5. The Permanent Forum highlights the unprincipled positions and actions of States that undermine indigenous peoples' human rights and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and that such conduct prejudices indigenous peoples globally and serves to weaken the international human rights system. Therefore, States must take steps, in conjunction with indigenous peoples, to ensure that State commitments and obligations are not violated in other international forums, as occurred at the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, following the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples. Consistent with both the outcome document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples and the Declaration, States, in conjunction with indigenous peoples, should develop legislation and mechanisms at the national level to ensure that laws are consistent with the Declaration.

6. The Permanent Forum expresses its deep concern about the alleged atrocities and human rights violations committed against the indigenous peoples concerned in Canada, Finland, Indonesia, Mexico, the United Republic of Tanzania and Western Australia in Australia and atrocities committed against the indigenous peoples in other parts of the world. It urges the entire United Nations system, including the relevant bodies, to take appropriate action.